

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1969



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BOUROGE OF CHORLEY

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1969

The Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor A. Barnes

Alderman	W. CORCORAN	Alderman	W. RAWCLIFFE
"	D. DUNN	"	G.R. RIGBY
"	W. LOWE	"	W. WILCOCK
"	Mrs. C.M. MONKS	"	Miss A. FORSHAW
Councillor	J. AINSCOW	Councillor	D. IRVING
"	Mrs. M. AINSWORTH	"	J.C. McGINTY
"	H. BIBBY	"	B.J. PILKINGTON
"	Mrs. M.M. BLACKBURN	"	Mrs. B.J. RIGBY
"	W. BLEASDALE	"	R.H. RIGBY
"	P.H. CRAIG	"	T. ROWLANDSON
"	H.V. DAVIES	"	D.E.R. SEABROOK
"	J. GLYNN	"	I. SELLERS
"	H. HEAP	"	T.C. SHORROCK
"	R.A. HEYES	"	J.L. THAIN
"	A. HIGGINSON	"	M.A. THOMPSON
"	Mrs. G.E. HOBAN		

Chairman of the Health Committee:

Alderman G.R. RIGBY

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee:

Councillor J.C. McGinty.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4, Lancashire County Council, also Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Adlington, Fulwood, Leyland, Longridge, Walton-le-Dale and Withnell, and to the Rural District Councils of Chorley and Preston.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

N. T. W. POVER, L.R.C.S., L.E.F.P.S., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H.
Also Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Health Division 4.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. G. KELLY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.M. (a) (b) (c)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. L. FEAR, M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b)

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

F. MYERS, M.A.P.H.I.,
K.W. TITTENSOR, M.A.P.H.I., (b) (d)
W.J. THORNTON, M.A.P.H.I., (d)

- (a) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Meat and Other Foods Inspector.
- (b) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Smoke Inspector.
- (c) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.
- (d) Holds the Diploma of Public Health Inspectors' Examination Board.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

E. R. KING

Clerical Staff:

R. HEAPS. MRS. D. PROCTER. MISS K. GARDINER.

General Foreman:

A. PRETTY.

PART 1

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND VITAL STATISTICS.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year ended 31st December 1969.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the Borough at the middle of 1969 was 30,990 which is 110 fewer than the estimate for mid 1968. The number of live births assignable to the Borough was 466 of which 259 were males and 207 were females and of the total 47 (an increase of 12 on the previous year) were illegitimate. The number of live births in the previous year was 516 so that there were 50 fewer births in the past year. The crude birth rate for the year 1969 was 15.0 (adjusted 16.1) per 1,000 estimated population whilst the birth rates for England and Wales and the County of Lancaster were 16.3 and 16.9 (adjusted 17.2) respectively. The ratio of the Borough's adjusted birth rate to the national rate was .98.

The number of deaths assigned to the Borough for the year 1969 was 484 which is 74 more than in the previous year. The crude death rate for the Borough was 15.6 (adjusted 15.4) per 1,000 estimated population. The death rates for the Country as a whole and for Lancashire were 11.9 and 12.4 (adjusted 13.4) respectively.

The Registrar General provides a table giving the causes of death in age groups and this table is reproduced in the Report. From this it will be seen that 187 of the 484 deaths occurred in persons 75 years of age and over and a further 173 were between 65 and 74 years of age. These two groups together account for 360 or 74% of the total of 484 deaths in the Borough during the year.

In regard to causes of death during 1969; one finds that heart diseases as usual caused the greatest number 156 as compared with 162 in the previous year. Of these 127 were classified as due to ischaemic heart disease (coronary disease) which is 6 fewer than in 1968. Next to heart disease as a cause of death comes malignant diseases with a total of 94 which represents an increase of 28. This gives a death rate for cancer for the Borough of 3.0 per 1,000 population as compared with the national figure of 2.35. Lung cancer accounted for 22 of these deaths in 1969 as compared with 16 in the previous year. Again, a close third in regard to frequency is cerebro-vascular disease (strokes) with 90 as compared with 65.

Other causes of death showed only minor variations from the previous year. The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 5 which compares with 9 in 1968. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the Borough was therefore 11 per 1,000 live births which compares favourably with the corresponding figures for England and Wales and Lancashire which was 18 and 19.0 respectively.

It is again pleasing to note that there were no deaths in 1969 attributable to child-birth or abortion - there have been no such deaths since 1958. It is also satisfactory that there were no deaths from tuberculosis and only one death from this cause occurred in the previous year.

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was 115 including 11 cases of tuberculosis as compared with 398 including 2 cases of tuberculosis in 1968. The main reason for the decrease was the reduction in notifications of measles from 325 to 51. Notifications of scarlet fever fell from 42 to 27 and there were no notifications of whooping cough in 1969 as compared with 17 in the previous year. Notifications of Infective Jaundice numbered 21 in 1969, the first full year in which this disease has been notifiable. Reference was made in my last report to the introduction of the vaccination scheme against measles and parents of children who had not had measles were urged to take advantage of this. Unfortunately supplies of the vaccine became short and the scheme did not get going properly. Supplies have recently improved however, and it is hoped that parents will now have their children protected against measles so that this disease may be eradicated as has been practically so in several other infectious diseases. Vaccination against measles involves only one injection and is available from general medical practitioners, welfare centres and school clinics. Vaccination and immunisation against smallpox, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, tetanus and whooping cough still remain vitally important.

Housing conditions in the Borough continue to improve as a result of the repair and clearance of unfit dwellings and the erection of new ones. Three small clearance areas comprising 15 houses were officially represented and a further 14 individual houses were dealt with as unfit for human habitation. A total of 292 new dwellings were completed during the year comprising 140 by the Council and 152 by private enterprise.

The Council's Scheme of flatlets for the elderly who are under the supervision of a resident warden has proved so beneficial that another scheme of a similar kind was commenced during the year for completion during 1970.

A study of Mr. Kelly's sections of the Report will show that the Public Health Inspectors have been active in a wide variety of aspects all of which are of great importance in the maintenance of a healthy environment. The need for the control of environmental pollution is now becoming appreciated and Public Health Departments will undoubtedly play an increasingly important part in this essential work. In this connection one can not help expressing disappointment at the lack of progress in regard to the problem of atmospheric pollution from smoke from domestic premises. The delay now is largely due to economic considerations and the recently acknowledged shortage of solid smokeless fuels in various parts of the country.

A very considerable proportion of the time of the departments staff has been spent in connection with food hygiene particularly meat inspection in the Council's Public Abattoir and milk sampling. In regard to the latter, particular attention has been paid to sampling for brucella infection which if present can cause undulant fever in man. Pasteurisation renders the milk safe for consumption but the Government's scheme for the eradication of this disease in cattle should be expedited.

Modernisation and extension of the Common Bank Sewage Disposal Works continued during the year and the first stage should be completed in 1970.

I am indeed grateful to Dr. Black, Mr. Kelly and the staff of the Health Department for their willing assistance and co-operation at all times. My thanks are also due to other officers and staff of the Council for their ready help whenever this is required.

I must also express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued support and encouragement.

I have to honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Chorley is a compact industrial Lancashire town covering nearly 4,300 acres, of which about 680 acres were added in 1934, from the surrounding rural area, including the Duxbury Estate (650 acres) and part of the parishes of Euxton and Heath Charnock. The Borough has been included in the proposals for the New City of Central Lancashire.

The town is situated approximately at the centre of a triangle formed by the County Boroughs of Preston, Wigan and Bolton, and is placed on elevated ground (average about 300 feet) at the approaches to the Pennine Range, which rises sharply to the East, the sea being located approximately 10 miles to the West. The subsoil is mainly clay, with outcrops of sand and gravel.

The majority of the houses in the centre of the town are of the terraced type. There are several municipal housing estates, and much new private housing development has taken place in recent years. The town is well provided with several small green recreation grounds, and possesses in Astley Park, near the centre of the town, a large natural parkland of much beauty, comprising nearly 100 acres.

The principal industries are cotton weaving, spinning and bleaching, motor works, manufacture of floor coverings, laundries and the assembly of telecommunication equipment. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1968 and 1969.

	1968	1969
Population (estimated)	31,100	30,990
Number of Deaths (corrected)	410	484
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.2	15.6
Live Births	516	466
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	16.6	15.0
Still-births	9	6
Still-births (per 1,000 live and still births)	17.0	13.0
Total live and still births	525	472
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	9	5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births total	17.0	11
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...		
legitimate	17.0	12
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...		
illegitimate	-	-
Neo Natal Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (first-four weeks)	12.0	6
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (under one week)	10.0	6
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births and deaths		
under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and still-		
births)	27.0	19
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live		
births	6.8	10.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still		
births	-	-
Number of deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	0
Death Rate per 1,000 population from Respiratory		
Tuberculosis	0.03	0
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	1	0
Death Rate per 1,000 population from all forms		
of Tuberculosis	0.03	0
The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres ...		
Population Census, 1951	32,636	
Population Census, 1961	32,262	
No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books) ...	11,131	11,382
Rateable Value of the Borough	£1,014,577	£1,038,559
Product of 1d Rate	£3,999	£4,088

Causes of death at different periods of life during 1969 in the Municipal Borough of Chorley.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over	
B4 Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
B17 Syphilis and its Sequelae	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -
B18 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M F	1 -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
B19 (1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc.	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -
B19 (2) Malignant Neoplasm, Cesophagus	M F	2 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- -
B19 (3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M F	12 4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	5 1	2 5	- -
B19 (4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M F	5 8	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	2 3	1 1	- -
B19 (5) Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	M F	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- -
B19 (6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M F	17 5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 1	8 1	6 2	1 1	- -
B19 (7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M F	- 9	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- 3	- 4	- -
B19 (8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
B19 (10) Leukaemia	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
B19 (11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	M F	10 13	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -	- -	1 1	4 1	2 4	2 6	- -

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over	
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	M F	- 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- 1	-	-
B46 (1) Other Endo-crine Etc. Diseases	M F	- 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- 2
B23 Anaemias	M F	1 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 2	-	-
B46 (3) Mental Disorders	M F	- 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46 (4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, Etc.	M F	2 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	- 1	-
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M F	4 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2 2	1 2	-
B27 Hypertensive Disease	M F	5 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 1	2 5	- 1	-
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	M F	69 58	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5	15 2	32 15	15 41	-
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	M F	4 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 1	- 1	1 1	-
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	M F	33 57	-	-	-	-	1	-	1 1	1	3	14 20	13 36	-
B46 (5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M F	10 21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 1	3 6	4 14	-
B31 Influenza	M F	4 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1 2	-
B32 Pneumonia	M F	4 16	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	- 7	1 9	-

[illegible]

TABLE 1

	Live Births	Deaths (All Causes)	Stillbirths	Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality							
					Total		Neo-Natal					
	No. of Births	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n (crude)	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n (crude)	No. of Still Births	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of D'ths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of D'ths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births		
Year 1969	466	15.0	484	15.6	6	13.0	Nil	Nil	5	11.0	3	6.0
Year 1968	516	16.6	410	13.2	9	17.0	Nil	Nil	9	17.0	6	12.0
1967	559	17.9	444	14.2	5	9.0	Nil	Nil	11	20.0	7	13.0
1966	504	16.2	454	14.6	10	19.5	Nil	Nil	15	25.8	9	17.9
1965	515	16.5	428	13.6	8	15.3	Nil	Nil	7	13.6	3	5.8
1964	510	16.4	363	11.7	9	17.3	Nil	Nil	18	35.3	3	15.7
Ave. 5 years 1964-1963	521	16.7	420	13.5	8	15.6	Nil	Nil	11	22.3	6	12.9

* Adjusted

Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.07) = 16.1 per 1,000

Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 0.99) = 15.4 per 1,000

* Adjusted Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.07) = 16.1 per 1,000
 Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 0.99) = 15.4 per 1,000

TABLE 11
Infant Mortality Rates

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1964	35.3	20.0	21.4
1965	13.6	19.0	19.8
1966	25.8	19.0	19.9
1967	20.0	18.3	20.0
1968	17.0	18.3	19.4
1969	11.0	18.0	19.0

TABLE 111
Birth Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1964	16.4	18.4	18.68
1965	16.5	18.1	18.20
1966	16.2	17.7	17.86
1967	17.9	17.2	17.55
1968	16.6	16.9	17.32
1969	15.0	16.3	16.9

TABLE 1V
Death Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1964	11.7	11.3	12.09
1965	13.6	11.5	12.27
1966	14.6	11.7	12.73
1967	14.2	11.2	12.18
1968	13.2	11.9	12.28
1969	15.6	11.9	12.4

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Since the National Health Service Act came into force the personal health services of the Borough have been administered by the Lancashire County Council, as the "Local Health Authority" under the Act. These services include the Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics and the School Health Services -- Medical and Dental, and the Home Nursing Services.

The Ambulance Service is also provided by the County Council.

The Hospital Services which include all the local and near-by hospitals, are now maintained by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee.

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory in Preston, which forms part of the nation's Public Health Laboratory Service, undertakes all the work of the Borough of Chorley in this field.

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, and caters for every aspect of the public health work of a local authority related to the bacteriological and biological examination of samples and specimens.

DETAILS OF COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES

The following services are administered on behalf of Lancashire County Council by No. 4 Division Health Committee. The Divisional Medical Officer is Dr. J. Walker, Joint Divisional Offices, East Cliff, Preston, Tel. Preston 54868 and the local Medical Officer (Departmental) is Dr. D.J. Black, School Clinic, Collison Avenue, Tel. Chorley 2709.

Ambulance Service

There are 4 ambulances and 4 dual purpose cars stationed at the Ambulance Station in Preston Street, Chorley. The work done by this station covers the area of the Borough and surrounding districts. All these vehicles are fitted with radio, and are in direct contact with the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

Midwifery Service

There are two domiciliary Midwives serving Chorley who attend expectant mothers who are confined at home.

Home Nursing Service

There are established in various parts of Chorley 5 District Nursing Sisters, 2 District Nurses and 2 male District Charge Nurses. The duties of these nurses include nursing care of patients in their own homes and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are employed in Chorley and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

Ante-Natal Clinics

There is a weekly session held at the School Clinic, Collison Avenue, Chorley when a Consultant Obstetrician, employed by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee, attends.

Child Welfare Centres

Two Child Welfare Centres are open each week in the district, one at Eaves Lane, each Wednesday afternoon, one at Collison Avenue open on Tuesdays and Fridays. A Doctor and Health Visitor attend each clinic and advice is readily given in infant care and management and baby foods sold.

Cervical Cytology

Facilities for its early ascertainment of cervical cancer are available for mature women, by appointment, at the School Clinic, Collison Avenue.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination and Immunisation of children against Smallpox, Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus and Measles are available free of charge at County Council Clinics.

School Medical Service

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at all the schools and clinics sessions are held at Collison Avenue, Chorley, for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, speech therapy, orthopaedic and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provision for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

Convalescent Care

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

Welfare Services

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer any one to adequately care for them. One such home is Coniston House, Tootell Street, Chorley. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

Short term care for elderly people was available during the year, mainly to give a respite for persons caring for elderly relatives at home, or to allow them to take a holiday.

Chiropody Service

Chiropody sessions were held at the School Clinic, Collison Avenue, during the year for persons of pensionable age, expectant mothers, and registered handicapped persons. In addition a domiciliary service is available for those unable to attend clinic.

A similar service was also available through the Chorley Voluntary Old Peoples' Welfare Committee.

Mental Health Service

Mental Welfare Officers serving the area are based at the Divisional Health Office, Preston and are available to give advice. A Social Centre for persons requiring rehabilitation following mental illness operates each Tuesday afternoon in Crown Street, Chorley. For mentally sub-normal children there is a Junior Training Centre at 'Mayfield', Stratford Road, Chorley and a Training Centre and Hostel for mentally sub-normal adults in Weldbank Lane, Chorley. A Youth Club for sub-normal children is held each Friday evening at Newtrees, Stump Lane, Chorley.

National Assistance Act 1948 (Sec. 47)

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

No. of applications made during the year	None
No. orders made	None

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notification and Prevention of Infectious Disease

The statutory basis of notification and prevention of infectious disease was changed on the 1st October 1968, by the introduction of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968. This Act amended the list of notifiable diseases and certain relevant sections of earlier Acts. Under this Act, the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 were made and became operative also on 1st October.

These regulations apply specific sections of the Public Health Act 1936, Public Health Act 1961 and the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 to a new list of diseases; prescribe the duties of a medical officer of health with respect to notifications and to returns and reports of disease; and authorise certain measures for preventing the spread of disease.

The diseases covered by these regulations are:-

Acute encephalitis	Diphtheria	Paratyphoid Fever
Acute Meningitis	Infective Jaundice	Scarlet Fever
Acute Poliomyelitis	Leprosy	Tetanus
Amoebic Dysentery	Leptospirosis	Tuberculosis
Anthrax	Malaria	Typhoid Fever
Bacillary Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough
	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Yellow Fever

plus any the local authority may add for its area by an Order made under Sec. 147 of Public Health Act 1956 or Sec. 52 of the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968.

The principal changes from the earlier Regulations are:-

1. any obligation to notify a case of disease now rests solely on medical practitioners;
2. acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia, acute rheumatism and puerperal pyrexia are no longer to be notified; tetanus and yellow fever require to be notified for the first time;
3. infective jaundice which became notifiable by separate regulations earlier in the year is now included in the main list;
4. leptospirosis is now to be notified throughout England and Wales;
5. the powers of a medical officer of health of a district to vaccinate contacts of persons suffering from smallpox have been extended to other diseases; and
6. the power of a local authority to require a person to stop work in order to prevent spread of infection are extended to permit action in cases of food poisoning.

Prevalence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (except T.B.)

1969

1969 and 1968

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases
Measles	25	3	2	21	51
Scarlet Fever	11	6	3	7	27
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning ...	-	3	1	-	4
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	1
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice ...	-	1	-	20	21

1968

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases
Measles	131	132	56	6	325
Scarlet Fever	21	9	5	7	42
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	13	2	-	2	17
Pneumonia	2	2	2	-	6
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	1	-	1	2
Food Poisoning ...	1	2	1	-	4
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice ...	-	-	-	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

The town is supplied with water from the Liverpool Corporation Water Works at Rivington, the Chorley supply coming from the filter beds at 'The Nab'. The water is soft upland surface water, which is chlorinated and treated by the soda ash process prior to distribution.

There were 11,124 houses in the Borough on mains water supply at the end of the year, the remaining 7 being outlying farms and cottages. During the year water supplies were extended to new houses in Gillibrand Estate, Park Cottages Estate, Bagganley Estate, Burgh Lane, Bolton Road.

Weekly bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Liverpool Corporation who forward copies of the results to the Public Health Department. The results are invariably satisfactory. In addition the Department took 16 samples for bacteriological examination, 5 proving unsatisfactory, and 3 samples for chemical analysis which were found to be satisfactory. All unsatisfactory samples were followed up, the sources re-sampled and found to be satisfactory.

Typical results of chemical samples are as follows:-

Source of Sample: Chorley Treated Water.

(a) Physical Examination of water, slightly coloured.

(b) Chemical Examination:

Reaction, pH 7.4

Results expressed in parts per million;

Total Solids in Solution	100
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	
in 15 mins	0.32
in 3 hours	0.60
Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.015
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.24
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Combined Chlorine	13
Free Chlorine	0.04
Total Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	48
Carbonate Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	32
Calcium Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	28
Lead	Nil
Copper	Nil
Zinc	Nil
Total Iron	0.04
Apparent Colour - Hazen Units	7

Complaints are still received from time to time about the insufficiency of the water in various parts of the town particularly from properties on the higher ground, Hartwood Estate and Burgh Lane areas are examples. I am pleased to report that has improved during the year.

Most complaints however, concern blocks of properties scattered throughout the town, which are served by one distribution pipe and these pipes are usually found to be partly blocked due to age, at other times houses in the blocks are using much more water than originally intended. In these cases action is taken under the Public Health Act 1936 to require the individual owners to provide a sufficient supply of wholesome water in pipes in the houses and the water undertaking agree to bring the main to suitably positioned stop taps on the pavement at their own expense so that owners' pipes can be connected to these. There are ofcourse other circumstances where junctions and ferrules merely require to be cleaned and flushed out.

It is essential that a wholesome and sufficient supply of water is available in the town if a satisfactory standard of health is to be maintained. However, it is interesting to note that the average daily consumption of water per head of population is still increasing about 45.5 gallons compared with 45.2 in 1968. (This figure includes main supplies used for industrial as well as domestic purposes).

Private Supplies - Drinking Water

7 dwelling houses including 4 farms are on private supplies which are mostly shallow wells or springs. Of 8 bacteriological samples taken during the year 7 were unsatisfactory, however, the persons concerned were advised to boil the water prior to using it for human consumption. 1 chemical sample was taken the result being satisfactory.

2. PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two swimming baths in the Borough, the Corporation swimming bath and Hartwood Hall which is a privately owned open air pool. This private pool was closed throughout the whole of the year.

Corporation Baths

The water used is from the Liverpool Corporation mains supply. It is filtered and chlorinated by mechanical means and has proved very satisfactory.

During the year 31 bacteriological samples were taken from the baths all of these proved generally satisfactory. 1 chemical sample taken was also satisfactory.

One sample was taken from the paddling pool in Astley Park. This pool is thoroughly cleaned and chlorinated at intervals during the summer season. The pool was completely re-surfaced during the year.

3. SEWERAGE

The outlying farms and cottages in the Borough are parts not served by the water carriage system and houses in Euxton Lane, Bolton Road, Wigan Lane and Carr Lane districts are drained to septic tanks, no sewers being available, but the new East Valley Main Drainage Scheme will enable properties in some of these districts to be connected to the main system. During the year 292 new houses were connected to the sewerage system.

Sewage disposal is effected at the Common Bank Works. The first stage of the extension to the Common Bank Disposal Works will be completed during 1970. The design of the second stage will follow.

Sewerage from Chorley is received at Common Bank through four trunk sewers at the North East of the works, and that from Euxton and the Royal Ordnance Factory is conveyed through two separate sewers on the westerly side. The works comprise mechanically operated screens, detritus channels, sedimentation tanks, storm water tanks, percolating bacterial filters, humus and sludge digestion tanks, and sludge drying beds.

4. RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Lancashire River Board has jurisdiction in regard to rivers and streams pollution in the Borough. The pollution of rivers and streams has become a national problem and stringent measures are being implemented to improve and control the situation. Complaints that are received from time to time are referred to the Rivers Board.

PART 2.

CLEAN AIR.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

HOUSING.

MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION (GENERAL).

by

J. G. KELLY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my Annual Report to you for the year ending 31st December 1969.

In all sections of the department the year proved very active, although there is obviously much work to be done in the public health preventative fields which had to be curtailed to some extent due to the pressure of work in the Public Slaughterhouse. The amount of overtime necessarily incurred by my Deputy and the two Additional Inspectors interferes greatly with continuity of other routine and investigatory work, and in my opinion some alternative to time off in lieu is required.

On the subject of Housing, I am glad to say that the five year programme of 1965/66 is well under way and good progress has been made. It will be necessary shortly to reappraise the whole of housing policy having regard to the Housing Act 1969 which increases the cost of Slum Clearance and at the same time places much emphasis on the improvement of houses and the environment in which they are situated. The results of the survey completed during the year are interesting and confirm to a large extent my previous assessment of the housing situation in Chorley. However there will be more borderline houses which may be worth improving and so be upgraded in that sense.

I am pleased to report that the Refuse Collection service was maintained at a high level of efficiency over the year in spite of increased absenteeism, turnover of staff and vehicle breakdowns. More detailed comment on this subject appears later in this Report.

As far as Clean Air is concerned, work continued in the industrial field and much information on the domestic side obtained by means of the survey mentioned earlier. I hope that the opportunity will come in the near future for the Council to determine its policy on Smoke Control so that the atmosphere in the Borough can be cleaned of at least some of its pollutants.

Routine work in the Food & Drugs field continued and surveillance was maintained over supplies of milk, water and a variety of other foods. Considerable interest has belatedly been shown concerning Brucellosis, but the number of people who continue to drink untreated milk is remarkable

The Public Abattoir again had a successful year although the total throughput was slightly less than 1968. Hours of slaughtering have remained unchanged having regard to trading requirements and naturally inspectorial staff have been on duty throughout those hours because of management responsibilities and duties placed on the authority by the Meat Inspection Regulations and charges levied thereunder.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Dr. J. Walker, Medical Officer of Health, my Deputy and all the Staff and employees of the Department for their continued keenness and co-operation, the Chief Officers and Heads of all Departments, for their co-operation and kind assistance, the Chairman and Vice Chairman and Members of the Housing Committee and finally to the Chairman and Vice Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement throughout the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J.G. KELLY,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits and Inspections:

Building Plans	13
Clean Air (including observations)	113
Diseases of Animals	23
Drainage (Inspections and Tests)	835
Entertainment Places	1
Factories	70
Food Premises	484
Food Inspections:-	
Routine and Condemnation	342
Sampling - Food and Drugs	107
Bacteriological	185
Public Abattoir (Days)	308
Housing:-	
Housing Acts - Repairs	30
Closing/Deml.	132
Slum Clearance	193
Overcrowding	15
Imprt. Grants	182
Houses in Multiple Occupation	105
Public Health - Repairs	874
Re-inspections	79
Vermin	24
Infectious Disease	229
Miscellaneous	1,503
Nuisances	227
Offensive Trades	4
Pet Animals Act	9
Public Cleansing	442
Public Conveniences	207
Rag Flock Act	-
Rodent Control	154
Schools	3
Shops Act	14
Swimming Baths	19
Tents, Caravans, etc.	22
Water Supplies	285
Workplaces	-
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	233
Health Education	2
Interviews	625
Civic Amenities	304
Noise	83

1. CLEAN AIR

(a) GENERAL

The legislation now covering the subject is contained in the Clean Air Acts 1956 - 1968, the latter statute having become operative during the year under review.

The major additions to the original law can be summarised thus:-

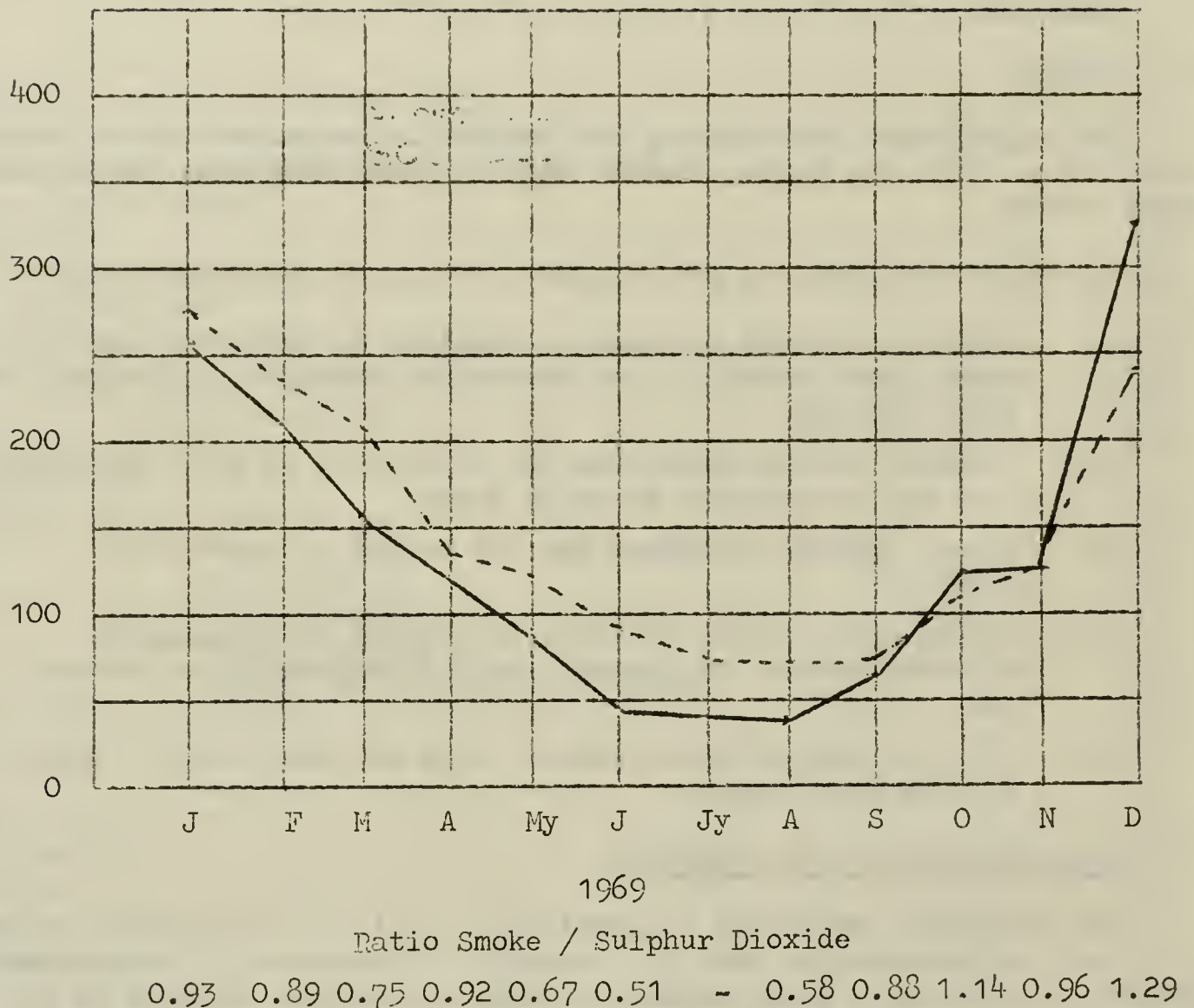
- (a) Powers are given to local authorities to deal with dark smoke from industrial and commercial premises as distinct from chimneys;
- (b) Stronger powers concerning the arrestment of grit and dust. This may be extended to cover fumes;
- (c) Formal approval required for the height of certain new chimneys;
- (d) Powers given to the Minister to require the Submission of smoke control programmes and the declaration of Orders; and
- (e) the retailing of unauthorised fuels in smoke control areas is made an offence.

(b) INVESTIGATION OF AIR POLLUTION

The Department continues to participate in the Investigation of Air Pollution in co-operation with the Ministry of Technology by an apparatus measuring the average daily amount of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the air. The following graph shows the average daily values per month for 1969.

The nature and extent of pollution must be known for effective action to be taken to reduce it, and only continuous recordings by scientific methods can the necessary knowledge be obtained. A large number of local authorities throughout the country participate in the scheme and the monthly figures are sent to the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Ministry of Technology, who act in an advisory and co-ordinating capacity. At the Laboratory the results of the investigations are collated and circulated monthly to participating local authorities, so making available an overall picture of pollution as well as making comparisons between different areas.

It is still quite evident that smoke concentration tends to vary in proportion to population for the reduction of smoke from industrial premises continues to improve. The results for the Borough are similar to those of many highly industrial towns so it must be concluded that it is principally due to domestic sources.



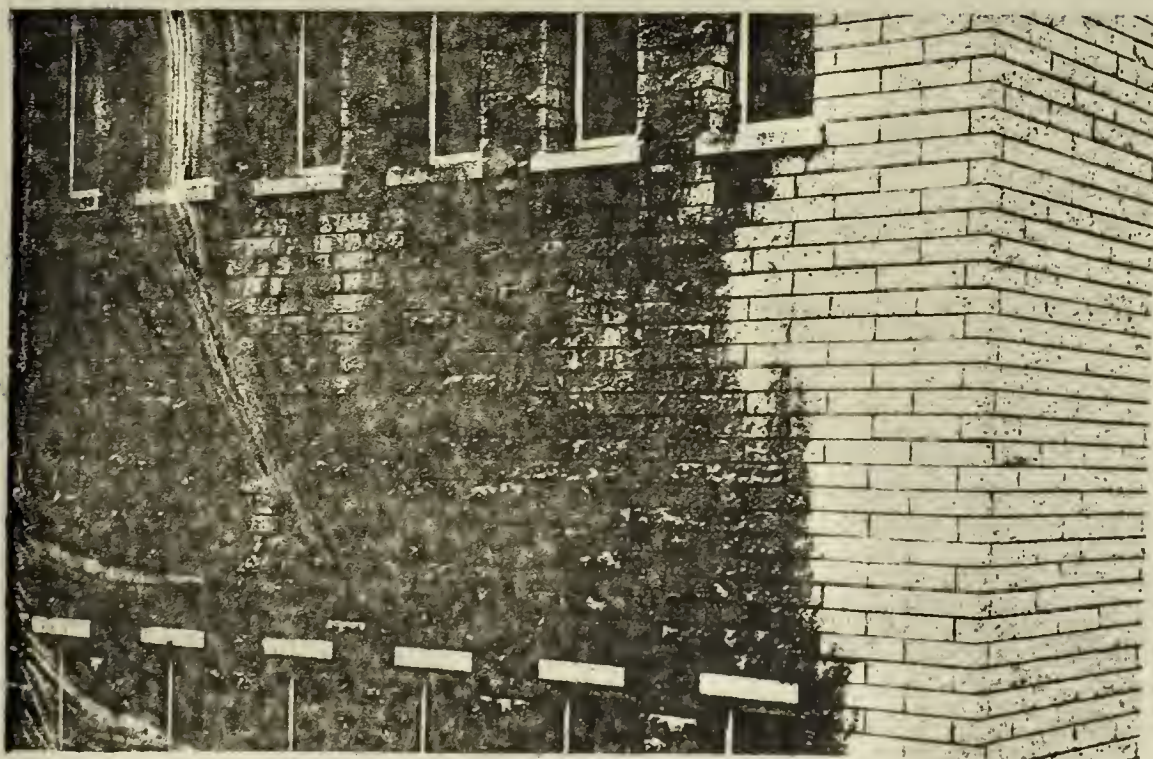
(c) INDUSTRIAL

Attention continued to be given to the industrial aspects of Clean Air during the year and the position is generally good. Some fifteen smoke observations were made of which thirteen proved satisfactory. Seventy three visits were made to industrial premises regarding emission of smoke, installation of new plant, plant alteration and the erection or demolition of chimneys. I am pleased to report once again that management has in general been co-operative in this field.

AIR POLLUTION IN CHORLEY



Years of pollution cleaned from the front walls of houses in Pall Mall.



The walls of the Magistrates Court, opened in 1968, already showing pollution stains (photographed June, 1970)



(d) INSTALLATION OF NEW FURNACES

No applications for prior approval were received during the year but there were 16 notifications of intention to install new furnaces.

Fuel Used	Notifications
Coal	Nil
Gas (Towns)	Nil
Oil	15 (15)
Electricity	1 (1)

The number in brackets denotes the number of furnaces involved.

(e) NEW CHIMNEYS

As stated earlier the Clean Air Act 1968 introduced the principle of formal approval of chimney height under certain circumstances. These concern the rated input of fuel to a furnace and are (a) pulverised fuel in any quantity; (b) solid matter at a rate exceeding 100 lbs/hour and (c) liquid or gaseous fuels at a rate exceeding $1\frac{1}{4}$ million BTU/hour. Prescribed forms are to be used for the formal application and sufficient detailed information given to enable the authority to make a decision. These applications must be dealt with within 4 weeks.

To enable local authorities to judge the soundness of proposals concerning chimney heights the Ministry of Housing and Local Government have issued guidance notes.

Clean Air Act 1968 Sec. 6

No. applications received during year	2
No. approved	2
No. refused	Nil.

(f) DOMESTIC

The subject of smoke control has again not yet been debated with a view to a policy being formulated. This has been due principally to the economic situation and the regrettable acknowledged shortage of solid smokeless fuels in various parts of the country. In view of this latter position no new Smoke Control Orders are likely to come into operation before April 1971. This has caused an unfortunate setback in clean air progress particularly as many people are being geared up to using for their own convenience the range of authorised fuels.

It is interesting to note that the following estimated figures represent the position in the Borough (1969):-

- (a) Total estimated % of dwellings already fully capable of complying with a Smoke Control Order. 7'
- (b) Total estimated% using authorised fuels either wholly or in part (including (a) above). 29'
- (i) % dwellings using electricity for heating wholly or in part (excluding portable appliances). 9%
- (ii) % dwellings using gas for heating wholly or in part. 17%
- (iii) % dwellings using oil for heating wholly or in part. 1%
- (iv) % dwellings using solid smokeless fuels wholly or in part. 2%
- (c) % dwellings with full central heating. 6%
- (d) % dwellings with part central heating. 4%

2. FOOD CONTROL

(a) Milk Supply

Since 1956 Chorley and the surrounding districts have comprised a Specified Area, so that the only milk retailed within the Borough is designated milk, that is Untreated, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 came fully into force on the 1st October 1964, revoking the previous regulations. The principal change from the Council's view relates to the use of the new special designation "Untreated" for raw milk, instead of the previous designation "Tuberculin-Tested".

The following Licences were issued under these Regulations:-

Dealer's (pre-packed) milk licences for untreated, pasteurised and sterilised milk	103
Dealer (pasteuriser) licence	-
Dealer (steriliser) licence	-

177 visits were made to dairies and milk shops.
Dealers' licences provide for more than one designation in many cases.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

64 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, and the results are shown in the following tables:-

	No. of Samples	RESULTS		
		Satis.	Unsat.	Void Samples
UNTREATED MILK				
(a) Methylene Blue Test	46	36	7	3
HEAT TREATED MILK				
(b) Methylene Blue Test	14	12	2	-
(c) Phosphatase Test		14	-	-
(d) Turbidity Test	4	4	-	-
(e) Colony Count Test	-	-	-	-

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Total number of Samples submitted - 84.

Results	Positive	Negative	No Result
(a) Tuberculosis	-	19	-
(b) Brucellosis - Ring Test ...	7	77	-
(c) Brucellosis - Culture Test	2	5	-
(d) Brucellosis - Biological Test	-	19	-

The Ring Test for Brucellosis is essentially a screening test so it is the practice to subject ring test positive samples to culture in order to confirm the presence of the organisms. In all cases of confirmed brucellosis in milk samples the local authority in whose area the farm is situated is informed so that investigations can be made. The information is also passed to the producer.

Brucellosis - Sampling Scheme

Local arrangements continued to operate having regard to recommendations contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 17/66. Samples of milk from the producer-retailers situated in the Borough and samples from five producer-retailers situated in adjoining areas who retail milk within the Borough boundary have been taken bi-monthly and examined for brucella organisms.

This scheme was intended to widen the scope of the original system, with a view to preventing the sale of infected untreated milk. Milk found to be infected e.g. culture positive, must be subject to heat treatment until the producers concerned have eliminated affected cows with the aid of their own veterinarians and the milk has satisfied a further series of tests.

The two samples of milk found positive on culture test originated from farms situated outside the Borough.

Chemical Analysis

46 samples of milk were obtained for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act 1955, and submitted to the Public Analyst. Of these 44 have proved genuine. Two samples were found to be deficient in fat and the producers were warned.

(b) Ice Cream

There are 173 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. One of the premises is also registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, although within the meaning of the Food Standard (Ice Cream) Regulations 1959, the produce is in fact, a milk ice, the prescribed standard of composition for which being much lower than that of ice-cream.

37 samples were taken for subjection to the methylene blue reduction test and the results were generally satisfactory, the provisional grading used being by nature of a guide to hygienic practices only.

PROV. GRADE	Premises			
	1	11	111	1V
Soft Ice Cream	7	3	3	2
Other Ice Cream	15	7	-	-

(c) Food Hygiene

The routine inspection of food premises continued throughout the year and 14 informal notices were served regarding contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Whilst it is satisfactory to report a continued improvement in the methods of handling and storage of foods in the great variety of premises in the town, much more has to be done about the insufficiency of storage space.

Continued vigilance by the Public Health Inspectors is essential to maintain a high standard of food hygiene and no relaxation of effort can be acceptable. Many retailers have for some time relied upon delivery men to replenish bread, confectionery and meat products in their shops without realising in many cases that they alone are responsible for sales that take place. Problems have arisen concerning the staleness of these articles and extreme care is required to ensure that the method is not abused, resulting in the sale or exposure for sale of stale or even unfit food. This type of occurrence was mentioned in last years Report where a retailer was prosecuted and fined.

(d) General Markets and Cattle Market

The standard of food hygiene on the General Market and Cattle Market continues to remain high. This position is eminently satisfactory when the market generally has a high reputation in the area. All stall holders selling open food sell from built-in stalls provided with all facilities in accordance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

(e) Food Premises

	No. Premises	Fitted to comply Sec. 16	Sec. 19	
			To which apply	Fitted to comply with
General Grocers and provision dealers	126	124	98	98
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.)	13	13	4	4
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc.	2	2	2	2
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.	32	32	32	32
Bakers and/or confectioners	26	26	26	26
Fried fish shops	22	22	22	22
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	28	24	-	-
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes snack bars and similar catering ests.	119	118	118	118
Others	8	8	-	-

Number of Food Premises and Hawkers Registered

Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

Ice Cream Premises	173
Potted and preserved food premises	29

Section 14, Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951:-

Hawkers' premises	28
Hawkers	54

(f) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Sampling: The Corporation is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

During the year 102 samples were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst and of this number 95 were proved genuine. Of the other 7 samples, 1 sample of milk was found to be deficient in fat and one contained a foreign body, 5 samples of meat products deficient in meat content, 2 of which contained preservatives without declaration.

The following table shows the variety of foods sampled:-

Baking Powder	1
Lemon Curd	1
Margarine	1
Lung Linctus	1
Clive Oil	1
Beef Sausages	2
Meat Pies	3
Orange Squash	1
Saccharin Sodium Tablets	1
Cough Mixture	1
Cornish Pasties	1
Butter	1
Sardines	1
Pork Sausages	8
Meat & Potato Pies	2
Honey Syrup	1
Blackcurrent Vitamin C Health Drink	1
Nut Mix	1
Creamed Cashew Nuts	1
Canned Porridge	1
Standardised Senna Tablets	1
Steakettes	1
Spirits	8
Hot Curry Sauce Mix	1

Peeled Tomatoes	1
Fish Paste Salmon	1
Chutney	1
Potted Meat Mould	2
Steak & Kidney Pie	1
Cornish Pastry Filling	1
Extract of Malt & Cod Liver Oil	1
Iced Lolly	1
Milk Ice	2
Gravy Browning	1
Glycerin Lemon Honey	1
Cut Mixed Peel	1
Milks	46
	<hr/>
	102
	<hr/>

The most significant food standard legislation which became operative during the year (31.5.69) was the Sausage and Other Meat Products Regulations 1967 which lays down minimum meat content of such foods. For many years a generally accepted presumptive standard has been used for sausages in particular and much effort has been made to ensure that these products complied with it. However as in many foods, the taste of the public differs throughout the country and no doubt authority has tried to make sure that a person gets value for money. Nevertheless the standards now laid down follow closely the experiences found over the past two decades, and came as no surprise.

Other regulations made during the year related to Solvents in Food, Canned Meat Products, Food (Control of Irradiation), The Soft Drinks (Amendment) and Artificial Sweeteners in Food (Amendment), although the last three are not operative until January 1970.

(g) Complaints concerning food

Fifteen complaints were received and thoroughly investigated during the year. This number represents an increase of 66% over last year and shows a growing awareness amongst members of the public and those responsible in schools and other establishments to the many possible dangers attached to staleness, mould, inefficiently cleansed containers and foreign bodies, in the form of insects or particulate matter such as dust or grit.

Whilst it was not deemed necessary to institute legal proceedings in any of the cases investigated, the persons responsible in law were warned most emphatically concerning any recurrence of the grounds for complaint.

It is not easy to find the cause or pin-point the blame in many instances, but the resultant investigations have considerable value in that food handlers are made to realise the dangers, trouble and inconvenience caused to many people by occurrences of this type.

ARTICLE	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	ACTION		
Milk	Foreign Body	Firm concerned warned		
Scones	" "	"	"	"
Pea & Ham Soup	Decomposed	"	"	"
Sausage	Foreign Body	"	"	"
Devon Sandwich	Mouldy	"	"	"
Trebor Chew	Foreign Body	"	"	"
Frozen Green Beans	Decomposed	"	"	"
Milk	Foreign Body	"	"	"
Milk	" "	"	"	"
Cheese Flavoured Potato Crisps	Mouldy	"	"	"
Blackcurrent Tart	Foreign Body	"	"	"
Chopped Ham with Pork	" "	"	"	"
Milk	" "	"	"	"
Bacon	Offensive Smell	"	"	"

(h) Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

- (i) No. of egg pasteurisation plants in district at end of year
 - None
- (ii) No. of samples of liquid egg submitted to Alpha Amglaze test
 and their results - None

(j) Public Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection

In the Borough of Chorley all slaughtering of animals for human consumption is carried out at the Council's Public Abattoir.

Though the throughput for the year showed a fall compared with 1968 it was still comparatively high and required once again the maintenance of strict management, supervision and high equipment efficiency.

The manual staff of one Abattoir Caretaker and three labourers was maintained during the year.

Works of repair and maintenance have been carried out during the year and further items are yet to be completed. It is essential however to realise that the premises are after all a food factory and as such demand a high standard of maintenance to ensure smooth running and compliance with the various regulations covering this type of premises.

I am again pleased to report that 100% meat inspection was maintained throughout the whole of the year, although regular overtime by Public Health Inspectors was necessary to ensure that the Meat Inspection Regulations and management requirements were satisfied.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

13 slaughtermens licences were issued during the year.

The following table indicates the annual throughput at the Public Abattoir over the last six years.

Animals Slaughtered 1964-1969

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Cattle	6,789	6,151	8,681	12,166	11,390	11,153
Calves	16	14	59	349	122	107
Sheep	16,102	18,191	20,671	25,631	23,207	20,794
Pigs	2,646	2,350	2,364	1,938	1,472	1,458
Total	26,553	26,706	31,775	40,084	36,191	33,512
*Equiv. Cattle Units	11,338	10,969	14,017	18,377	16,808	16,077
*Av. Equiv. per week	218	211	270	353	323	309

* One cattle unit is equivalent to one unit of cattle, three calves, five sheep or two pigs.

Animals Slaughtered and Inspected

	Cattle Excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	4,566	6,587	107	20,794	1,458
Number inspected	4,566	6,587	107	20,794	1,458
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis --- Whole carcasses condemned	-	2	6	6	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,148	4,449	2	2,559	94
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	47.0%	67.5%	7.5%	12.3%	6.6%
Tuberculosis only --- Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis --- Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	3	2	-	-	-
Carcass submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	2	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Disposal of Condemned Meat and Offal

Condemned Liver sold for pharmaceutical purposes is collected by an approved processor and the bulk of the income from this is repaid to the butchers concerned.

All other condemned meat and offal is stained green prior to being sold for processing.

98,722 lbs. of meat and offal were disposed of in this way from the Abattoir plus 350 lbs. of home killed or imported meat from retail shops.

(k) Inspection of Other Foods

<u>Type of Food</u>	<u>Qty. Condemned (lbs)</u>
Vegetables	168
Ham (Canned)	292
Tongue (Canned)	90
Corned Beef (Canned)	65
Pork	275
Luncheon Meat	12
Lamb Kidney	13
Fruit	40
Poultry	114
Beef	128
Bacon	95
Confectionery	87
Steak	50
Melons	19 cases
Tins, packets of other food (including frozen foods)	
4,850 in number.	

(l) Poultry Inspection

(i)	No. of poultry processing premises within the district	1
(ii)	No. of visits to these premises	60
(iii)	Total No. of birds processed during the year	14,050
(iv)	Types of birds processed	1-2 year old hens & turkeys
(v)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	Approx. 0.5%
(vi)	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption	None

- (vii) Comments on poultry processing and inspection:
The spotter system was employed.
950 birds killed, remainder eviscerated only.

HOUSING

(a) General

Of the total number of houses in the Borough it is estimated that some one fifth are owned by the Corporation. Nearly two thirds are of the terraced type situated in most parts of the area and a quarter are semi-detached. Including the local authority owned properties about one third of the whole are tenanted which indicates that some 84% of the private houses are owner-occupied.

As far as slum clearance is concerned it would appear that there are between 200 and 300 houses that require to be dealt with in this way. However as the present programme is due to be completed towards the end of 1971, the time has come to look at the future position having regard to the impact of the Housing Act 1969 and to generally frame proposals for Council approval to cover the ensuing ten years. Until these properties are examined in more detail it will not be possible to forecast more accurate figures. I mention ten years because of the discretion now given to authorities to approve in certain circumstances applications for standard grants where the life is at least 10 years.

In the tables that follow I wish to stress that the figures given for displaced persons do not indicate the total number of persons re-housed by the Council as a Housing Authority. They refer only to houses in respect of which action has been taken under the Housing Act 1957 Parts II and III.

During the year 14 individual houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act, 1957 and 15 houses were officially represented in the following clearance areas:-

Borough of Chorley (Cowling Road) Clearance Area 1969 (6 houses)
Borough of Chorley (Parker Street) Clearance Area 1969 (5 houses)
Borough of Chorley (Laves Lane) Clearance Area 1969 (4 houses)

The total number of houses erected or otherwise acquired by the Council up to the end of 1969 was 2,399.

A quarter of the private houses in Chorley are middle-aged, terraced, and although structurally sound, are lacking in bathroom, hot water and inside w.c's. These houses will still be standing in twenty or thirty years but at the present rate of improvement it would be twenty five years or more before they are all brought up to present day standards.

The 1969 Housing Act has faced this problem in two ways, firstly by offering the incentive of increased improvement grants with fewer conditions and secondly by encouraging the making of General Improvement Areas where an all out effort is made to secure improvement of the houses and the Council can receive a grant of £50 per house for environmental improvements such as tree planting, grassed areas, car parking facilities and play spaces.

A number of areas in Chorley would benefit from such treatment and provide modernised houses in reasonable surroundings at a moderate cost to the owners and the Council.

(b) Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses Demolished

Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Houses Unfit for Human Habitation	23	59
Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2)	-	-

Not in Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17, Housing Act 1957	-	-
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit	1	2

(c) Unfit Houses Closed

	Houses Closed	Persons Displaced
Under Section 16 Housing Act 1957.	2	2
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957	2	4

(d) No. of new houses erected during the year

(1) By the Local Authority 6 houses 134 flats	140
(2) By other bodies or persons	152

(e) Particulars of Housing Scheme

- (i) In hand at end of the year.
 25 Old peoples flatlets Hodder Avenue
 17 Old Peoples bungalows.

(f) Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year

- (1) (a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected
 formally or informally for housing defects
 (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 548
- (b) No. of inspections, formal or informal,
 made for the purpose 1,411
- (c) No. of dwelling-houses in (a) above found
 to be not in all respects reasonably fit
 for human habitation but capable of being
 rendered fit 305
- (2) Total No. of dwelling-houses existing at
 end of year which were unfit for human
 habitation and not capable at reasonable
 expense of being rendered fit and in
 respect of which:-
- (a) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders
 have been made (at any time) 97
- (b) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders
 have not yet been made 200

(g) Remedy of defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice

No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of
 informal action by the Local Authority or their
 Officers 248

(h) Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

A. Proceedings under Section 9 and 16 of the Housing Act 1957

- (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices
 were served requiring repairs -

(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice

(a) by Owners -

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners -

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Act.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 100

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied

(a) by Owners 128

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners -

C. Proceedings under Section 16, 17 and 35 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 22

(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 24

(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted -

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act.

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 2

(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit -

(i) Housing Act, 1949 and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

Improvement Grants Etc:-

Action During Year:-

	No. of Schemes	Private Bodies Or Individuals	Local Authority	
		No. of dwelling Houses or other Buildings	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	3	3	-	-
(b) Approved by Local Authority	3	3	-	-
(c) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry	-	-	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-	-	-
(e) Work completed	4	4	-	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (a) above	-	-	-	-

(j) House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 - Standard Grants:-

(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority	46
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority	45
(c) Work completed	38

(k) Rent Act 1957

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	...	None
Certificates of disrepair issued	...	None
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	...	None
Undertakings given	...	None

(1) Houses in Multiple Occupation

105 visits were made to dwellings used for multiple occupation during the year and all of these were inspected for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1961. Persons intending to purchase houses for conversion to Multiple Occupation or self-contained flats are encouraged to obtain advice from the Department relating to their responsibilities under the Housing Acts.

Preliminary notices were served under Section 15 and 16 of the Act and co-operation with owners of the properties involved has been generally good, although difficulties are being experienced in obtaining agreement concerning means of escape in case of fire.

It is estimated that of the 25 properties known to be in multiple occupation the details regarding separate occupancies are as follows:-

No. of separate occupancies	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No. of houses involved	9	3	2	2	2	-	6	1

An increase in this type of accommodation has been noted no doubt due to the presence of the College of Education and the motorway construction personnel, and it is necessary to prepare local standards to deal with this type of letting with reference in particular to the overcrowding of rooms for sleeping purposes.

The Housing Act 1969 made further provision concerning houses in multiple occupation in that it introduced a new definition of such properties and extended the powers of local authorities to deal with them.

(m) Prosecutions - None

4. PUBLIC HEALTH GENERAL

(a) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

(1) Introduction

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 which became operative on 1st September, 1965 makes provision for the health, welfare and safety of persons employed in these types of premises. Its requirements are very similar to those of the Factories Act and include provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, seats, safety of machinery, first aid and fire precautions.

This report relates to the work carried out by the Borough Council acting as the Local Authority in offices and shops, where it has enforcement responsibilities. The requirements regarding fire precautions in these premises are dealt with by the Lancashire County Council acting as the Fire Authority. Offices and shops within the curtilage of factories, and railway premises in the vicinity of the permanent way are the responsibility of H.M. Factory Inspectorate.

(2) Registration of Premises

The following table shows the number of registrations made since the Notification of Employment of Persons Order 1964 became operative. This Order required employers of persons already employed in offices, shops and railway premises on 31st July, 1963 to register those premises between 1st May and 31st July, 1964, and also requires employers intending to employ persons after that date to register with the appropriate authority. Notifications must be made on the prescribed form O.S.R.1., copies of which may be obtained from the Public Health Department.

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered			No. General Inspections made
	1966 to 1968	1969	Total to 31.12.69	
Offices	89	18	107	34
Retail Shops	205	36	241	60
Wholesale Premises and Warehouses	12	2	14	4
Catering Est. and Canteens	16	2	18	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-
Total	322	58	380	98

The number of premises registered to date totals 380. This figure may seem low in comparison with the number of these types of premises in the town, but it must be stressed that a large proportion of these are wholly family concerns and as such are not registrable under the Act. However the employment of one person who is not a close relative on these premises may bring the whole premises within the scope of the Act.

(3) General Inspections

A total of 98 general inspections were made during the year and many re-inspections following the service of informal notices.

The position of market stallholders was mentioned in last year's report. I am pleased to say that the Public Conveniences in the Market Place are to be made available free of charge to all persons with effect from 1st April 1970. This decision was taken having regard also to the question of change-over to decimal currency early in 1971.

(4) Visits of all kinds

A total of 233 visits of all kinds were made by inspectors to registered premises during the year.

(5) Analysis of persons employed

An analysis of the persons employed in registered premises by the class of workplace is given in Table below:-

Class of Workplace	Number of persons Employed
Offices	734
Retail Shops	654
Wholesale Depts.	
Warehouses	79
Catering Estabs. open to the Public	101
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots.	-
Total	1,574
Total Males	700
Total Females	874

(6) Exemptions

No applications for exemptions from either Section 5 (2) (Space), Section 6 (Temperature), Section 9 (Sanitary Conveniences) or Section 10 (Washing Facilities) were made during the year.

(7) Contraventions found

In the course of the general inspections carried out it was necessary to serve 24 informal notices in respect of contraventions found and a summary of these is given in the table as follows.

Contraventions Table

Contraventions	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale D & Warehss.	Cat. Ets. & Canteens	Fuel St. Depots.	Total
Cleanliness (Sec. 4)	1	2	-	-	-	3
Overcrowding (Sec. 5)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature (Sec. 6)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thermomtres.	6	7	1	-	-	14
Ventilation (Sec. 7)	-	-	2	-	-	2
Lighting (Sec. 8)	1	3	2	-	-	6
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9)	6	-	4	-	-	10
Washing Facilities (Sec. 10)	3	1	-	-	-	4
Drinking Water (Sec. 11)	3	-	-	-	-	3
Acc. for Clothing (Sec. 12)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sitting Facils. (Sec. 13)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seats for Sed. Wrkrs. (Sec. 14)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eating Facils. (Sec. 15)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Floors, Passages and Stairs (Sec. 16)	1	3	2	-	-	6
Safety of Machinery (Sec. 17)	2	-	-	-	-	2
First Aid (Sec. 25)	8	9	1	-	-	18
Info. for Employees (Sec. 50)	8	10	1	-	-	19

8. Accidents

Two accidents were reported to have occurred on registered premises during the year both concerning retail shops. Both incidents were falls, one down a flight of stairs, the other a fall over an object left in a passageway.

I feel sure that these two cases were but a small proportion of accidents that actually occurred in our registered premises during the year. It is not fully realised that any accident resulting in an employee being away from work for more than three days must be reported to the registering authority.

9. Prosecutions

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

(b) Factories Act 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of			
		Inspec's	Written Notices	Occp's Prosecuted.	
(i) Factories in which section 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	27	10	-	-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	138	57	9	-	
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises)	3	3	-	-	
TOTAL	168	70	9	-	

2. Cases in which defects are found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector (4)	by F.M. Inspector (5)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient ...	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	7	-	5	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers) ...	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	9	7	-	5	-

(c) Offensive Trades

There are two premises registered for the purpose of carrying on trade classified as "offensive," under the Public Health Act, 1936 namely tripe dressing (one) and gut scraping (one). The premises are regularly inspected to ensure that the bye-laws referring to them are complied with.

(d) Movable Dwellings

Under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926 (Sections 92-3) no tent, caravan, or similar structure is permitted to remain within the Borough, nor is it permitted for any land to be used to provide accommodation for such, without the consent of the Council. Special arrangements were made however to accommodate employees connected with constructional engineering operations for the M.61 Motorway for a temporary period.

(e) Rodent Control

Properties other than Sewers

1. Number of properties in district
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises inspected following notification)
- (b) Number infested by
 - (i) Rats
 - (ii) Mice
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification
- (b) Number infested by
 - (i) Rats
 - (ii) Mice

Type of Property	
Non Agricultural	Agricultural
13,009	18
458	2
279	2
179	-
101	8
45	2
3	-

Apart from the enormous amount of damage caused by rodents to foodstuffs, other materials, and to the fabric of buildings, they are potential carriers of food poisoning organisms. Most rat infestations originate from rats gaining access to buildings by way of defective drains from the public sewers and to control the rat population in the sewers an annual treatment by laying poison bait in the manholes is carried out.

On the subject of mouse control however certain difficulties were encountered using warfarin and it has been found necessary to resort to other poisons to ensure adequate treatment. Alphachloralose is now used although in certain situations one of the quick acting poisons such as Zinc Phosphide would be necessary.

Sewers

Sewer treatment was carried out in May and although 79 manholes were treated only 2 complete takes and five part takes were reported. These manholes were re-baited with a subsequent satisfactory result.

(f) Disinfestation

Vermin

Infestations of bed bugs or fleas are now a comparatively rare occurrence but it was found necessary to disinfect 2 houses during the year. Modern insecticides have made this work easier and they are extremely effective, re-infestations being almost unknown. When necessary bedding and other suitable material is treated by steam in the Department's own steam disinfector.

Other Pests

The advice of the Department is frequently sought concerning the eradication of many types of insect pests, and in some cases treatment is carried out. It must be realised however that the Council is statutorily bound to concentrate its efforts on those pests intimately concerned with public health, although the staff are always willing to give advice when other problems are brought to them.

Pigeons have become an occasional problem, particularly on a housing estate, and efforts have been made to deal with the owners who in many instances appear to be in breach of tenancy agreements by keeping these birds. The major problem still rests with those who feed them regularly thus increasing the size and range of the problem and making it more difficult to combat.

Clover mites were a cause of irritation in some areas, no doubt due in part to the pattern of residential development and expanse of grassed areas and new sites. Advice was given however to those who were troubled.

(g) Schools

1.	Chorley	All Saints C.E.
2.	"	Duke Street County (Junior)
2.	"	Duke Street County (Infants')
3.	"	Highfield County (Junior & Infants)
4.	"	Hollinshead Street Congregational (Infants')
5.	"	Parochial (Primary, Junior & Infants)
6.	"	Sacred Heart R.C. (Junior & Infants)
7.	"	St. George's C.E. (Junior & Infants)
8.	"	St. James C.E. (Junior)
8.	"	St. James C.E. (Infants')
9.	"	St. Joseph's R.C. (Junior & Infants')
11.	"	St. Mary's R.C. (Junior & Infants')
12.	"	St. Peter's C.E. (Junior)
12.	"	St. Peter's C.E. (Infants')
13.	"	St. Gregory's R.C. (Junior)
14.	"	St. Gregory's R.C. (Infants')
101.	"	Southlands County Secondary
104.	"	St. Augustine's R.C. Secondary (Boys')
105.	"	St. Alban's C.E. Secondary
107.	"	St. Michael's C.E. Secondary
108.	"	St. Hilda's R.C. Secondary (Girls)
130.	"	Grammar, Southport Road
150.	"	Highfield Nursery School
151.	"	Duke Street Nursery School
200.	"	Astley Park School.

Progress is still being made with improvements to the older schools and heating, lighting and other facilities are generally satisfactory.

(h) Sanitary Accommodation

The various types of closets in the Borough are as follows:-

Privy Middens	3
Closets attached to above middens	4
Pail Closets	12
Waste Water Closets	204
Water Closets	12,215

The privy middens and pail closets are located amongst the farm and outlying properties near the Borough boundary, and none exist where sewers are available. They are mostly emptied by the owners, but the Corporation undertakes the emptying of some privy middens and all the pail closets.

Six waste water closets were converted to water closets during the year.

(i) Drainage

A free service is provided for the clearing of stoppages in drains where simple rodding or plunging is effective, one man being employed practically full-time on this work. A total of 1,007 stoppages being cleared in the year.

When it is found necessary to excavate and open a drain, a Statutory Notice is served on the owner under the Public Health Act 1961 and if this is not complied with, the work is carried out in default by the Borough Engineer's Department and a charge is made.

(j) Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning

Whenever necessary routine enquiries were made concerning all notified cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning, and 229 visits were made in this connection.

Of the four notifications of suspected food poisoning two were a family outbreak and two were single cases.

It was not possible to trace the cause of these cases.

(k) Noise

Complaints concerning noise during the year entailed 83 visits being made to investigate the source and secure a reduction. These visits usually take considerable time and many have to be carried out outside normal working hours particularly at night. The problems encountered require thorough investigation by the department and the firms concerned, so that the most effective way of reducing the noise can be decided without reducing the efficiency of the plant beyond the point where it is economically viable. This is usually difficult to achieve and very often the improvement secured seemed very small to the complainants, who are only satisfied by the complete elimination of the sound. The terms of the Noise Abatement Act 1960 as they affect trade and industry are such as to recognise that all noise cannot be prevented.

Many difficulties arise because noisy plant is carelessly sited within works, or alternatively dwellings are erected adjacent to works where noisy operations are carried out, so much could be done therefore, by careful planning to avoid these problems in the future.

The major problem found was due to the comparatively high frequency noise emanating from a local mill and it has proved a difficult task to deal with the problem informally by means of assistance and advice. However it may be necessary to institute statutory action if the noise is not minimised without further serious delay.

5. MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

(a) Diseases of Animals Act, 1950

The Department is responsible for the administration of the Act and the various orders made thereunder within the Borough. Any action taken under the various duties imposed is outlined below.

Swine Fever

37 Licences from outside sources checked.

Fowl Pest

No Movement Licences were issued.

Foot and Mouth Disease

It is to be noted that amendment regulations were made during the year, the principle matter dealt with as far as this area is concerned is to enable the through transit of animals to take place on the Motorway. This was not possible during the last outbreak and caused considerable difficulty for drivers and long transit hours for animals.

No Licences were issued.

Importation of Animals Act

No Licences issued. 8 from outside sources checked.

Transit of Animals Order

These orders deal with the conveyance of animals to prevent unnecessary suffering. Several minor contraventions were dealt with and rectified by informal action.

Tuberculosis Area Eradication Order 1950

No notices prohibiting movement of bovine animals were received.

Waste Foods Order 1957

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry and lays down other prohibitions and requirements in order to prevent the spread of foot and mouth and other diseases.

Any person having 5 or more weaned pigs, or more than 50 head of poultry, who collects or receives waste foods for them must boil waste foods in plant for which he holds a licence from the local authority. Only one licence is in force in the Borough. The importance of these requirements are not fully realised until an outbreak of the kind experienced recently occurs.

(b) Shops Act, 1950

The enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to closing hours, Sunday trading, and the employment of young persons, is the responsibility of the Department. The health, safety and welfare of shop employees is now covered by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 which is reported on earlier in this report. Advice was given during the year particularly in relation to hairdressers and Sunday trading.

(c) Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

The purpose of this Act is to secure the proper cleanliness of filling materials used in manufacturing bedding, toys, baby carriages and other articles of upholstery.

There are three registered premises where filling materials of the type listed are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery.

(d) Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

This Act prohibits the sale or letting of unguarded electric fires, gas fires or oil heaters.

Most manufacturers now fit guards of an approved type to their appliances so it is unusual to find new articles not properly equipped. Vigilance is still necessary, however, particularly in the case of second-hand dealers, and householders are frequently advised to fit guards to their fires when unguarded ones are noticed during the course of inspections for other purposes.

(e) Pet Animals Act, 1951

This Act provides that no person shall keep a pet shop without a licence, so as to ensure that animals in such shops are kept under suitable conditions and that mammals will not be sold at too early an age. 5 licences have now been issued.

(f) Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There were seven persons on the register at the end of the year.

6. PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection

Vehicles:-

The following diesel engined vehicles comprised the fleet engaged in Refuse Collection at the end of the year.

Two Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic 20, rear loading compression vehicles (1969, 1967).

Two Karrier Ramillies 20 cu. yd. rear loading compression vehicles (1966, 1965).

One Karrier Bantam 12 cu. yd. dual tip. (1964).

One Karrier Bantam 10 cu. yd. side loader. (1962).

One Karrier Bantam 7 cu. yd. side loader. (1961) (Spare).

Because of the changing nature of house refuse and the pattern of house development in the area it became necessary to embark on a programme of vehicle replacement to provide those of larger capacity and of the rear loading compression type. The maximum vehicle size is restricted however at the present time by the large number of narrow passage-ways throughout the town which dictate vehicle types having a small wheelbase. Four vehicles of this type are now in service and have proved advantageous. Their increased capacity has resulted in a saving of lost time on tip runs and they are safer and easier for those employed on loading. From the public view-point it is comparatively dust free as no trimming of refuse is necessary and the contents are fully protected from the wind and rain.

After an unfortunate delay of one year in 1968, it is hoped and expected that the vehicle replacement programme will be permitted to continue next year. Having regard to the amount of work done by these vehicles at the present time it is essential to provide collection vehicles sufficiently robust to carry out the job effectively and efficiently. The increased attention being paid these days by the Ministry of Transport to vehicles generally and heavy goods vehicles in particular confirm the wisdom in replacing without delay suspect and worn out fleet vehicles.

Whilst until 1972 the refuse collection vehicles are exempted from the Flating and Testing Regulations, it is not expected that this exemption will extend beyond that date, so the goal must obviously be good vehicles and efficiently maintained vehicles.

The so-called spare vehicle has been used whenever labour has been available to deal with the vast increase in the demand for the removal of bulky items etc. from households, so whilst it is an absolute necessity for use when a normal service vehicle is under repair, the retention of a satisfactory vehicle for these purposes is paramount.

Labour

The establishment provides for 28 men including drivers to be employed on refuse collection.

4 teams of one driver and four collectors.	20
1 team of one driver and two collectors.	3
1 team of one driver/loader and two collectors.	3
1 team of one driver and one collector (spare).	2
	<hr/>
	28
	<hr/>

It will be seen from the table at the end of this report that the degree of absenteeism was high compared with 1968 and in fact the highest for four years. Much of this was due to sickness and the remainder difficulty of obtaining suitable men.

As the service of refuse collection in any town is important and one which is under daily scrutiny by the ratepayers it must be of the highest calibre. The number of premises to be served in Chorley is increasing steadily accompanied by the factor relating to the length of carry. For example to replace a block of old terraced houses by the same number of detached or semi-detached properties increases the time involved on collection and therefore the effort involved to maintain the service.

The fact that domestic refuse collection does not take place during the two holiday weeks e.g. July and September has resulted in few complaints, but to assist householders who have storage problems arrangements were made during the year whereby those with a problem could obtain from the department a paper refuse sack free of charge. Remarkably only about three dozen householders took advantage of this service on each occasion.

Bonus Scheme

I am pleased to report that the bonus scheme introduced in April 1966 operated successfully during the year and achieved its main objects, the incentive to increased efficiency and quality of service. A weekly collection has been maintained since its introduction and the quick return to normal after holidays has been very satisfactory.

During the year the whole of the area was surveyed and a fairly accurate assessment made of the amount of work involved and the equivalent number of dustbins requiring to be emptied each week. This resulted in previous figures being raised with a consequent rise in the amount of incentive bonus payable to the employees concerned.

The estimated number of dustbins or their equivalent emptied weekly at the end of the year was 13,520.

(b) Storage of Refuse

The system whereby the owner or occupier of any dwelling-house and certain business premises can be required to provide a suitable dustbin, under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926, continued to work well although it does not ensure that premises have a bin of standard size. The Report on Refuse Collection recommended that a Municipal Bin Provision Scheme is the most advantageous from all points of view. However with the changing character of refuse the $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. bin will have to give way to a bin of larger capacity e.g. $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. in the near future

During the year five preliminary notices were served on the persons responsible to provide dustbins, all being complied with.

Galvanised Dustbins to BSS 792/1947 $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. capacity with noiseless Rubbertex lids are purchased for re-sale to the public and with reasonable use should have an average life of 10 years. A quantity of $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. capacity Plastic bins were obtained with a hope that they could be used in dwellings centrally heated by electricity, gas or oil. In fact the new Council dwellings completed during the year were provided with them. They are of larger capacity than the standard $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft., light in weight and unlikely to be damaged by hot ashes in these types of premises.

During 1969 the following bins were sold:-

B.S.S. Rubbertex Lids.....	324 @ 40/-
Brockhouse type $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft.....	100 @ 40/-

* The prices were increased to 42/- in April.

(c) Refuse Disposal and Salvage

All refuse is now disposed of by controlled tipping at Lower Burgh Tip where the salvage depot is also situated. Four men are engaged in this work as follows:-

1 Tractor Driver
2 Tip Men
1 Paper Salvage Baler.

An International B.100 Loader was employed during the whole of the year.

The income from the sale of waste paper during 1969 returned to normal and was the only commodity salvaged by the Department. The sale of this material secured a gross income of £2,089 out of which £353 was distributed in the form of an incentive bonus amongst the collection and disposal staff. In April the price for mixed paper was raised from 38. 15. Od. to 39. 5. Od. per ton.

In Chorley it has been noted that over the past five years the larger firms and supermarkets have installed baling machines and are deriving their own benefit from the sale of waste paper and cardboard. This has reduced our potential and thus thrown the department back on that produced principally by small businesses and householders. However the object of the re-organisation was to increase efficiency and reduce costs and I hope these advantages will be achieved. It is hoped to organise a Waste Paper Publicity Campaign during 1970.

The salvage of paper and cardboard however, does relieve expensive tipping space and contributes to a reduction in fire hazards.

(d) Civic Amenities Act 1967 (Part III)

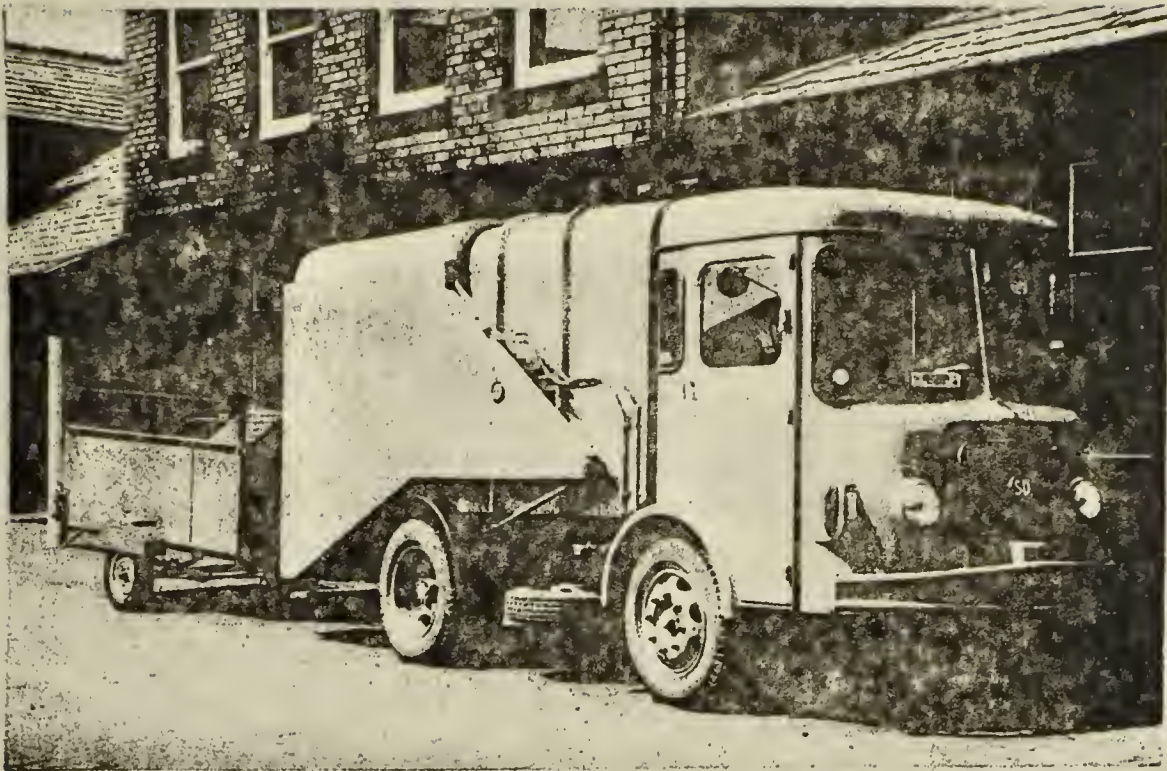
This part of the Act received much publicity but one wonders if those to whom it was particularly directed had ever heard of its provisions.

A statutory duty was placed on local authorities to provide a place where local residents could dispose of refuse at all times free of charge. Power was given to us to deal with abandoned motor vehicles and other refuse including "things". It also increased the penalties for persons found guilty of dumping with the intention of abandonment. It was also to be noted that the Act applies to any land in the open air which is certainly supplementary to the restricted provisions of the Litter Act and the Public Health Act 1961. Unfortunately the Act did not provide for local authority expenditure in removing refuse etc., from occupied land to be recovered from the occupiers for I think that in many cases this would have stirred these occupiers into taking some form of action to prevent their land becoming an unauthorised tip.

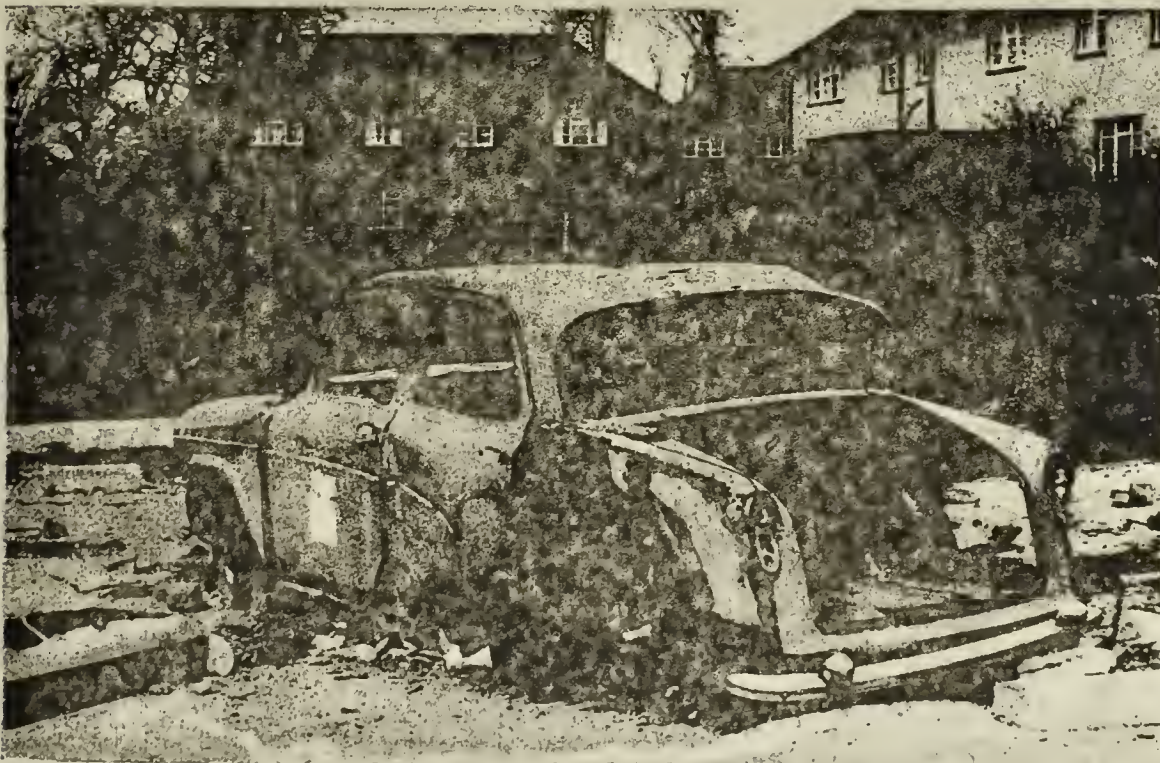
I am pleased to report that the arrangements made in Chorley for local residents to deposit refuse, namely on a piece of land adjacent to the entrance of our Lower Burgh Tip, has been well used although difficulties are still being caused by people dumping refuse at Birkacre and other open spaces in the Borough. During the year considerable attention was given to the tidying up of various sites and the spare refuse collection vehicle was used whenever possible on this work.

There were 744 requests from householders to remove bulky items and other refuse during the year and these were dealt with by the Department as soon as transport and labour was available. The arrangements for the collection of unwanted articles from dwellings has vastly improved and in general no charge is made. Charges will continue to be made however for the removal of accumulations on which significant time has to be spent and in every case where the refuse is of commercial or industrial origin. Commercial and industrial interests may dispose of trade refuse at the Tip for a reasonable charge.

REFUSE COLLECTION



The latest addition to the collection fleet. A 20 cu.yd. Shelvoke and Drewry "Pakamatic" compression vehicle with salvage trailer.



One of many abandoned cars that were removed under Civic Amenities Act 1967 procedure.

Charges for the removal and disposal of commercial and industrial refuse were increased in July 1969, having remained unchanged for some 20 years and 4 years respectively during which time costs had increased considerably. Regard was also given to the forthcoming change-over to decimal currency.

Abandoned Motor Vehicles

The new law dealing with abandoned motor vehicles has proved reasonably straight forward to use, and although there are times when informal action is taken, it is essential that the provisions of the Act are always used where difficulties could be encountered. One disadvantage of informal enquiries is where the owner states categorically that the vehicle is not abandoned notwithstanding that it must be obvious to all that it appears to be. It is the practice of the department that such vehicles are photographed for record purposes before being dealt with.

The place of safe custody for vehicles awaiting enquiries as to ownership etc., is situated in the Town's Yard, Back Street, and arrangements for disposal are through the good offices of a local car breaker.

The following table shows the action taken during 1969 concerning abandoned vehicles:-

ABANDONED VEHICLES

No. remaining at end of year 1968	68		
(1) No. found during year			65
(2) No. dealt with informally		66	
(3) No. otherwise removed		1	95
(4) No. dealt with under the Act		28	
(a) Wrecks	18		
(b) Runners	10		
(5) Disposal of (a) and (b)			
(i) No. removed after action commenced	10		
(ii) No. re-claimed	1		
(iii) No. disposed of	13		
(iv) No. awaiting disposal	4		
(6) No. remaining at end of year			39
(7) No. of private enquiries re disposal of vehicles		1	

(e) Protective Clothing and Welfare

All employees are issued with overalls and in April 1961 a laundering service for them was commenced, so that the men could hand in a dirty pair of overalls at the end of each week and collect a clean pair. Despite the obvious advantages of this system to the men the majority have continued to have their own overalls washed at home. Few make regular use of the laundering service.

In addition to overalls and waterproof clothing, gloves and goggles are issued to refuse collectors if requested and rubber boots and donkey jackets are issued to men employed on the tip.

All men engaged on refuse collection are allowed free use of the slipper bath facilities at the Public Baths. Few however take advantage of this, due no doubt to changing housing circumstances.

(f) Street Cleansing

The Borough Engineer is responsible for the cleansing of streets and snow clearance.

(g) Public Conveniences

There were 9 public conveniences under the control of the Department. They were cleansed and maintained by a staff of 2 male (full-time), 1 male (part-time), and 1 female (full-time), and 2 females (part-time). Other conveniences provided at Astley Hall and the Recreation Grounds are under the supervision of the Parks Department. The insufficiency of public conveniences throughout the Borough is noticeable, but certain improvements to existing conveniences are carried out from time to time but it is difficult to provide a good image with old and unsatisfactorily sited buildings. The market conveniences, however are well equipped, with wash and brush-up and free hand washing facilities and the premises in general are well used.

Because of the changes to decimal currency, consideration was given to the future of the coin-operated locks fitted at the Market Place conveniences and it was decided that with effect from 1st April 1970 they would be removed and the facilities would be made available free of charge.

Regretfully, it must be recorded that damage to locks, fittings and buildings was again prevalent throughout the year. However, the manufacturing industry have now concentrated on near vandal-proof installations which combined with new planning and design should ensure that future conveniences are less liable to human frailties. I regret however, to have to report that it has been decided to demolish one of the older conveniences due to sheer vandalism. It will be essential therefore for consideration to be given to the whole subject of the provision of public conveniences as soon as the present economic position permits finance to be used for this purpose.

(h) Refuse Collection & Disposal

Monthly Statistics of Time Lost Due to Sickness, Accidents and Casual Absence.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
No. of Working Days in month	22 ¹	20	21	20	21	21	23	21	22	23	20	21
Poss. No. man/days per month	700 ¹	640	673	640	672	678	717	671	705	759	652	664
Average strength of section	31.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.3	31.2	32.0	32.0	33.0	31.6	31.6
Days lost due to												
(a) Sickness/Accident	43	70	72	70	58	32	37	23	35	48	58	35
(b) Casual Absence	6	4	23	12	7	22	23	9	4	30	15	17
Percentage Lost due to												
(a) Sickness/Accident	6.1	10.9	10.7	11.0	8.6	4.7	5.2	3.5	5.0	6.3	9.2	5.3
(b) Casual Absence	0.9	0.6	3.4	1.9	1.0	3.3	3.2	1.3	0.6	4.0	2.3	2.5
Percentage total loss	7.0	11.5	14.1	12.9	9.6	8.0	8.4	4.8	5.6	10.3	11.5	7.8
Average Strength of Section	31.9	Average Monthly Loss %							
Established Strength	32.0	(a) Sickness/Accident							
					(b) Casual Absence							
					Total							

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Average Monthly Loss %					
(a) Sickness/Accident	8.7	5.9	4.0	3.4	7.2
(b) Casual Absence	2.3	2.2	1.7	1.4	2.1
Total (a) + (b)	11.0	8.1	5.7	4.8	9.3
Average Strength of Section	32.5	32.4	31.7	31.6	31.9
Established Strength	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0

